

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OFA-01

CG-00 EB-07 COME-00 DOTE-00 SAJ-01 SCCT-01 /066 W

----- 087892

R 110852Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9317

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

13TH AF CLARK AB

SUBIC NB

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, RP

SUBJECT: LATEST JAPANESE KIDNAPPING IN MINDANAO

REF: A) TOKYO 16076 B) MANILA 15716

1. ACCORDING LOCAL PRESS AND WIRE SERVICES, PHILIPPINE MILITARY HAS LAUNCHED "MASSIVE SEARCH" TO RETRIEVE SIX JAPANESE SIEZED FROM TUNA FISHING VESSEL "SULU" NOV. 7. CAPTORS AND HOSTAGES REPORTEDLY BEING HELD ON BASILAN ISLAND NEAR LAMITAN, AN AREA WHICH HAS LONG BEEN CENTER OF MUSLIM REBEL STRENGTH. ACCORDING PRESS, KIDNAPPERS BELONG TO SAME GROUP THAT ABDUCTED AIRLINE STEWARDESS SEKI ON AUG. 25 AND ARE DEMANDING NOT RANSOM BUT RATHER RELEASE OF TWO COLLEAGUES BEING HELD IN CONNECTION WITH HER CASE. (BOAT ITSELF WAS NOT RPT NOT HELD BY KIDNAPPERS.)

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2. JAPANESE EMBOFF CONFIRMED MAIN POINTS PRESS ACCOUNTS.

HE EMPHASIZED THAT ALTHOUGH PRESS VERSION OF REBEL MOTIVES PLAUSIBLE, THEY HAVE NOT YET MADE FIRM STATEMENT OF THEIR DEMANDS. HE SAID INITIAL NEGOTIATIONS CARRIED OUT BY FILIPINO REPRESENTATIVE OF JOINT VENTURE COMPANY, AIDED BY A FORMER REBEL WHO IS KNOWN TO KIDNAPPERS. HOWEVER, ACCORDING EMBOFF, REBELS HAVE NOW INSISTED ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOP RATHER THAN COMPANY REPS. THEY HAVE FURTHER SAID THEY WOULD PROVIDE "CLEAR CONDITIONS" REGARDING RELEASE OF HOSTAGES BY TOMORROW EVENING (NOV. 12).

3. EMBOFF EXPRESSED ANNOYANCE AT PAUCITY OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY PHILIPPINE MILITARY AND SAID JAPANESE AMBASSADOR HAS SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT WITH CONSTABULARY COMMANDER RAMOS THIS AFTERNOON IN ATTEMPT TO CLARIFY SITUATION. HE SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO NOTE VERBALE MENTIONED REF A, EMBASSY HAD SENT NOTE JUST BEFORE FISHERMAN WERE KIDNAPPED ASKING GOP TO TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT JAPANESE LIVES AND PROPERTY IN MINDANAO.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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